

I also include in the RECORD the stirring words of President Heine as expressed in the August 25 publication of the Marshall Islands Journal.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartfelt condolences to President Heine and the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and I ask the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the lifelong dedication exemplified by Tony deBrum and Mattlan Zachras, and honor these dedicated men of public service and the many national values that our countries share.

It is with great sadness and a very heavy heart that I announce that the Marshall Islands lost a national hero Tuesday with the passing of our Climate Ambassador and former Minister Tony deBrum.

Tony passed away peacefully in Majuro, surrounded by his proud father, as well as his wife and partner in life, Rosalie, and their three children, ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren—including newly born Ce'i'Ena. My thoughts and prayers, as well as those of the government and the people of the Marshall Islands, are with them.

Tony's legacy goes beyond our islands, and will go beyond those of us that call the Marshall Islands home. He fought for our independence, he fought against the tyranny of nuclear weapons and for nuclear justice for our people, and he led the international fight against climate change. The very existence of the Paris Agreement owes a lot to Tony deBrum. He was a giant of history, a legend in every meaning of the word, and a custodian of our shared future.

Born on February 26, 1945 in Tuvalu, Tony grew up in the Marshall Islands during the twelve-year period of US nuclear testing and, as a young boy out fishing with his grandfather, witnessed the horrors of the Bravo Shot, the largest US nuclear test—more than 1,000 times more powerful than Hiroshima. After becoming one of the first Marshallese to attend university, he returned to our island home to play a leading role in the negotiations that secured the Compact of Free Association with the United States, and ultimately our membership in the United Nations. Tony remained consistently and deeply committed to the cause of nuclear justice and global disarmament, and in 2012 was awarded the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Distinguished Peace Leader Award. In 2015 the Right Livelihood Foundation awarded him the Nuclear-Free Future Award and the 'Alternative Nobel'. In 2016 he was voted the Arms Control Person of the Year and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Tony found himself fighting for our country once again in the global battle against climate change. Tony's vision was captured in the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership in 2013, and in 2015 he contributed to the formation of the High Ambition Coalition. His tireless efforts on the world stage were instrumental in securing the Paris Agreement.

On this day that Tony passed, we also held our final traditional funeral ceremony for Minister Mattlan Zachras who passed away less than two weeks ago. I am certain that Tony will join Mattlan in looking over the Marshall Islands. While our nation may have lost two of our finest men, and the Earth two of its fiercest champions, the best thing we can all do to honor their legacies is to keep up the battle for our future—to which they dedicated their lives. We now carry their torch.

Tony made our island home and the rest of the world safer and more peaceful. And for that a grateful nation and planet says kommol tata. May he rest in the peace that he fought so hard for.—Hilda Heine, President

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reintroduce the United States Commission on an Open Society with Security Act, a bill as timely now as it was when I first began working on it. I saw the first signs in the closing of parts of our open society after the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and I saw it again after 9/11. This bill grows even more urgent as the country is ensnared in continuing wars that threaten our security, causing an increasing variety of security measures to proliferate throughout the country without due diligence and deep thinking about the effects on common freedoms and ordinary public access, and often without guidance from the government or bona fide security experts. For example, security in some federal buildings bar tourists here for Cherry Blossom season from even use of restrooms or cafeterias. The security for some federal buildings has for too long been unduly influenced by non-security experts, who happen to work for an agency but do not have the expertise to take into account actual threats.

The bill I reintroduce today would begin the systematic investigation the nation needs to fully take into account the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threat that terrorism poses. To accomplish its difficult mission, the bill authorizes a 21-member commission, with the president designating nine members and the House and Senate each designating six members, to investigate the balance that should be required between openness and security. The commission would be composed not only of military and security experts, but, for the first time at the same table, also experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but these experts should not alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the security/access balance required by our democratic traditions, a diverse group of experts needs to be at the same table.

For years, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and the fear of terrorism, on an often ad hoc basis. Some federal buildings such as the U.S. Capitol have been able to deal with security issues, and continue their openness to the public. Others, like the new Department of Transportation headquarters, remain mostly inaccessible to the public. These examples, drawn from the nation's capital, are replicated in public buildings throughout the United States.

When we have faced unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply before moving to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks

Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman-Robb Commission), and the Kerner Commission, which investigated the riots that swept American cities in the 1960s and 1970s. In the aftermath of the 2013 Navy Yard shooting, I wrote to then-President Barack Obama requesting the establishment of an independent panel to investigate issues raised by that tragedy and to evaluate how to secure federal employees who work in facilities like the Navy Yard that are a part of a residential or business community. However, this bill creates a commission that would act not in the wake of a tragedy but before a crisis and before erosion of basic freedoms takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we cannot afford to allow the proliferation of security measures that neither require nor are subject to civilian oversight or an analysis of alternatives and repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With no vehicles for leadership on issues of security and openness, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt, 19th-century approaches, such as crude blockades, unsightly barriers around beautiful monuments, and other signals that our society is closing down, all without appropriate exploration of possible alternatives. The threat of terrorism to an open society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level commission of experts from a broad array of disciplines to help chart the new course that will be required to protect our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

HONORING STEVEN WHYTE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Steven Whyte, a sculptor based out of Carmel, California. His most recent sculpture, a bronze bust of our colleague, Congressman JOHN CONYERS, Jr., has been accepted into the permanent collection of the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution.

Steven Whyte was born in England. He spent his youth living throughout Europe where he was inspired by the continent's expansive culture and history. From an early age, it was evident that art would maintain a constant presence in his life. Mr. Whyte studied at the prestigious Sir Henry Doulton School of Sculpture, which served as a catalyst for his remarkable career in portrait sculpture. His accomplishments in the medium were recognized when he became the youngest-ever member of the Society of Portrait Sculptors at age 24 and later the organization's Vice-President.

Whyte works out of his studio and gallery on the central coast of California in Carmel. He is

credited with more than 40 life size and larger bronze figure and monuments in the United States and United Kingdom. Whyte's work includes memorials for fallen first responders and soldiers, tributes to beloved cultural figures, and public art installations. One of his most prominent pieces on the Central Coast is the Cannery Row Monument located in Monterey. This piece features nine life-size figures, including author John Steinbeck, recipient of the Nobel Prize, and other figures prominent in Central Coast history.

Whyte's bronze bust of Congressman JOHN J. CONYERS, Jr. is one of the first busts sculpted of a sitting Member of Congress. His work captures Congressman CONYERS' significance as the Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives and a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus.

On behalf of California's 20th Congressional District, I thank Steven Whyte for the rich tribute that his bronze sculpture affords our Congressional colleague, JOHN J. CONYERS, Jr. I also appreciate the recognition that Steven Whyte has brought to the Central Coast's artistic community through the acclaim of his art by the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution.

CONGRATULATING RYAN DARBY

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, honor and thank a truly impressive young constituent from my district, 14-year old Ryan Darby, who is completing two years of exemplary service as a National Youth Ambassador for the Hyundai Hope On Wheels Foundation to fight pediatric cancer.

Ryan lives in Bethesda, Maryland and is himself a cancer survivor. He was selected to serve as a Hyundai Hope On Wheels National Youth Ambassador in March 2016.

Since then, Ryan has traveled across America to share his story of illness, resiliency, courage and hope and to inspire others to participate in the fight against cancer.

Ryan joined Hyundai Hope On Wheels in its continuing mission to educate people about pediatric cancer and to raise money—over \$130 million since 1998—to find a cure.

Over the last two years, Ryan visited many children's hospitals and attended events to stand in solidarity with children and families who are battling cancer or who have been affected by the disease. He has spoken at numerous schools and even shared his story on TV and radio.

Ryan was only six years old when he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, and he became one tough cancer survivor.

He is an inspiring example of physical courage, mental toughness and devotion to the well-being of others. I am especially proud of him for giving others hope. We encourage and applaud the kind of selfless contributions this young man has made.

I wish Ryan Darby the best of luck with all his future endeavors, and I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating him on a job well done as he completes his service as a 2016–

2017 Hyundai Hope On Wheels National Youth Ambassador.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CITY OF DENTON'S 9/11 FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL BELL TOWER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Denton, Texas as they dedicate a 9/11 Firefighters Memorial Bell Tower featuring an I-beam from the World Trade Center and Denton's original bronze fire bell. The Memorial was dedicated on the 16th anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and rural Pennsylvania.

An I-beam from the World Trade Center stands at the bottom of the 30-foot bell tower structure, which protects the I-beam below and frames the entrance to the Denton Firefighters Museum and Central Fire Station. The monument provides a visual representation of New York's landmark Twin Towers and displays the number 343 in remembrance of the firefighters who were killed at Ground Zero, as well as the words courage, dedication, and service, in honor of all firefighters.

The bell tower structure also features Denton's original bronze fire bell from City Hall West, which hangs at the top of the monument. The bell once sounded three times a day and was used to alert residents of fires. Cast originally in 1884, the bell was recently refurbished and made fully operational to make the same sounds as heard in historic Denton.

The dedication of the monument occurred as part of a special memorial event featuring retired New York City firefighter Bill Spade, who was at Ground Zero on September 11, 2001. Mr. Spade is the only survivor of the twelve responding firefighters on FDNY Rescue 5, a unit of the Special Operations Command. He shared his experiences from that unforgettable day, and put into perspective the debt of gratitude each of us owes to first responders that serve their communities each day.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the City of Denton as they honor the firefighters lost while responding to the attacks on our country in 2001, as well as the men and women currently serving Denton under the direction of Chief Paulsgrove and other leaders like him across Denton County. This recognition is well-deserved, and I am honored to represent these professionals and their families in the 26th District of Texas.

HONORING PETTY OFFICER CHARLES NATHAN FINDLEY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of United States Navy Petty Officer Charles Nathan Findley and his service to our

nation. On August 20th of this year, Petty Officer Findley was killed after a collision between the USS *John S. McCain* and a merchant vessel in waters near Singapore and Malaysia.

Respected by his fellow officers, Findley served as an electronics technician first class in the Navy. His friends and family will remember his love of rebuilding cars, Japanese culture, and foreign travel. Findley was a father and husband, leaving behind an 8-year-old daughter, 6-year-old son, and his beloved wife Riho.

His contributions as a Petty Officer for the United States Navy and his sacrifice to our nation serves as a reminder to us all that our freedom exists because of the dedication of brave individuals such as Charles. Our country is at a loss without his loyal service.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Petty Officer Charles Nathan Findley and his distinguished service to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN BAKER

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lauren Baker who has served as a mentor, teacher, labor leader, college instructor, consultant, and administrator. Lauren is retiring from her current position as Executive Director of the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association (MTEA) comprised of educators, educational assistants, substitutes and bookkeepers who work on behalf of the students attending Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). She officially retired on August 31, 2017.

Lauren has enjoyed a distinguished career. She spent over 25 years in the printing industry working as a journeyperson lithographer and then served as Education Director for the Graphic Communications International Union Local 577M (now GCC/IBT and Director of the Milwaukee Graphic Arts Institute (MGAI). Lauren taught at MGAI and Milwaukee Area Technical College. Highlights of her work during this period of her career include: leading the successful part-time teachers organizing campaign at MATC, founding the GCIU Women's Caucus and developing and implementing sexual harassment training for union members and employers. For 10 years, Lauren served as the Coordinator Career and Technical Education (CTE) for MPS. She led the district wide efforts in trade technical and other career educational disciplines. Further, she revitalized the career programming, advocated for publicly funded career education at the state and federal level and also coordinated the work for teachers in schools for the CTE programs.

Lauren has served on numerous boards; she has served on the MATC Board for 19 years. She co-chairs the statewide District Boards Association's Legislation Committee and represented the Midwest Region on the National Board of Directors for the Association of Community College Trustees. Further, Lauren served on the National Council for Skills Standards in Graphic Communications, the State Superintendent's Council of Technical and Engineering Education and Milwaukee County Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships and other committees in relation to workforce preparation and education.